

The event of the year! Austin Healey Conclave 2021.

Big Bear Gazette

WEATHER FORECAST
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NEWS FOR TODAY

Big Bear Lake, CA

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CONCLAVE 2021 COMES TO BIG BEAR!

HOARDS OF HEALEYS TO DESCEND ON OUR TOWN! MAY 16-21, 2021

Registration Now Open for the Event of the Year

Conclave 2021, the annual Austin Healey Club of America's national meet will roll into Big Bear Lake on May 15, 2021. Hundreds of vintage Healeys are expected to dominate the village and surrounding areas for the full week. The entire Lodge at Big Bear Lake will be taken over for the event and the featured Car Show will line both sides of downtown Pine Knot Avenue.

Attendees are expected to enjoy the cool mountain air and expansive views across the lake and mountains during several drives including a Poker Run and Scenic Drive and Rally to Joshua Tree National Park. A Gymkhana and Funkhana will be held at Big Bear Airport and the Car Show on the village's Main Street will be a highlight for attendees and locals alike.



Photo: The Village - a beautiful shopping and entertainment district at Big Bear Lake, CA

Many guests are expected to enjoy Big Bear Lake from the water as well, embarking on the Big Bear Queen Paddlewheel boat for a sunset cruise. Food and fun will abound at several cocktail parties, a Santa Maria style BBQ and the final night's Gala Grand Banquet. In between participating in all the events, those in attendance will have plenty of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones in the hotel's dedicated Social

Center. The Social Center will also host an Arts and Crafts competition, a Photo Contest, the Silent Auction and several Tech Sessions.

Registration is open now, with details on the following pages.

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Getting There is Half the Fun

While Southern California may seem like a long, long way to go for a Conclave, the options and potential attractions on the way to Big Bear are many, inviting and may make for a grand tour.

For drivers from the East, the possibilities include the Grand Canyon (and other notable canyons), Las Vegas and Death Valley. From the North and Northeast, you will be passing by Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Park and the Gold Country. And of course, once you are in California the options include San Diego, the Coast Highway 1, Monterey, San Francisco, the Wine Country and much more.

Yes, you say, but it's still many hundreds of miles to get out West. In 2019, 24 cars from Southern



California made the 1300-mile trek to the Deadwood Conclave by a variety of means. Some drove the entire way, others towed their Healeys to Salt Lake City and then drove the remaining miles. Another group had their cars shipped to Denver and drove from there, returning via Salt Lake. Our Conclave organizers will be happy to discuss ideas with your group to make Conclave 2021 more accessible. And while we would love to have your Healey, your rental car (from nearby Ontario Airport) is always welcome.

So, don't be too quick to write off a trip to Big Bear, it could be

THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME.

Conclave Contacts

CHAIRMAN: STEVE KIRBY
sackirby@pacbell.net

REGISTRATIONS: JAY MILLER
jaymiller979@aol.com

SPONSORSHIPS: MIKE SCROGGIE
mscroggie@aol.com

Make Your Escape to Big Bear Lake

Set foot in Big Bear Lake and you'll feel like you have stepped into a postcard: a shimmering lake, untouched forests, snow-capped peaks, endless blue skies.

There is a reason Big Bear is Southern California's top outdoors destination, a lot of them actually. 23 miles of lake shoreline, massive trees in the San Bernardino National Forest, hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails, fishing, boating and miles and miles of great driving

roads. And the Village at Big Bear Lake beckons with shopping, dining and sipping. Day or night, there's always something to do in Big Bear.

But it wasn't always this way. Until 1845 the area was inhabited only by the native Yuhaviat ("people of the pines") Indians. That year Benjamin Wilson led a posse into the mountains tracking some cattle rustlers out of Riverside. Wilson and his team found instead a valley full of grizzly bears, inspiring the name Big Bear Valley.

Gold was discovered in 1855 and a mini-Gold Rush began. The lake itself was born in 1883 when a dam was constructed to supply water to the orange grooves at the foot of the mountains in Redlands. Soon thereafter the area's first hotel opened, and new roads added accessibility. The first automobile round trip to the area occurred in 1908 and took 13 hours to complete!

After the turn of the century, Hollywood discovered Big Bear, both (cont. page 3)

All About the Hotel



The Lodge at Big Bear Lake (a Holiday Inn Resort) will host Conclave guests and many of the events. Located at 7500 feet elevation in the heart of the San Bernardino National Forest, the resort is only two hours from downtown LA and 80 minutes from Ontario International Airport which boasts some of the lowest fares in SoCal. But don't let that fool you, Big Bear couldn't be further from the congestion and bad air of the LA Basin.

The hotel features 148 recently renovated rooms, many with

balconies and fireplaces. Stillwell's Restaurant is on site and there is a pool, jacuzzi, fitness center, game room and outdoor patio for drinks and dining. Wi-Fi, parking (including trailer parking) and in-room amenities are included in the remarkable \$100 per night special rate and the normal resort fee has been waived for Conclave guests. A dedicated Social Center will be open during the entire event and will also be the site of Registration, the Welcome Reception, Arts and Crafts and Photo competitions, the Silent Auction, Tech Sessions and

more. The ambiance is "mountain cabin" throughout.

Conclave has booked the entire hotel for the event, so it will be wall to wall Healey! The hotel is only steps from The Village at Big Bear Lake where you will find no end of shopping and dining... there's even an English Pub!

For more info and photos visit
WWW.THELODGEATBIGBEARLAKE.COM



Make Your Escape cont.

as a perfect natural filming set (Heidi, Gone with the Wind) and as a retreat for stars escaping the big city. More recently Grey's Anatomy and The Bachelorette have been filmed in the Valley. It was at this time (late 20's) that the area began to be known as a winter fun destination. Today Big Bear boasts two world-class ski resorts.

Whatever your pleasure, even if it's just relaxing by the pool, Big Bear has what you need.

For a free copy of the excellent Big Bear Lake Visitor's Magazine, go to WWW.BIGBEAR.COM/TRAVEL-TOOLS/VISITOR-GUIDE/ (available by mail or for download).

Conclave 2021 – Day by Day

Conclave 2021 will offer all the traditional events and much more, with plenty of time to socialize with old friends and make new acquaintances. The week will unfold as follows:

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Hotel and Event Check-in, time for a **Car Wash** (on site) or to relax in the Social Center. No host evening **Cocktail Party** with appetizers and a special **Guest Speaker**. Silent Auction, Arts and Crafts



and Photo Contest displays open. Dinner on your own at the hotel or one of the numerous nearby establishments.

MONDAY, MAY 17

After breakfast we will head out on our **Poker Run and Tour** around the Lake and into the mountains.

Concours Judging all day. **Cocktails and final Poker Card draw** in the evening, followed by the optional **Santa Maria BBQ Dinner** by the pool.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Today is our big drive, your choice of participating in the TSD Rally or just enjoying the scenery. We will head down the mountain on scenic Highway 38 to visit **Joshua Tree National Park**, a truly unique landscape and habitat. After lunch,

we will return to Big Bear via another mountain route. Tonight will feature the preliminary and practice rounds of

Rocker Cover Racing followed by a no-host **Cocktail Party** in the Social Center. Many have decided to partake of the optional **Paddlewheel Boat Tour** on the Lake.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Car Show Day is here! After your commemorative photo



is taken you will be directed to your parking spot on Pine Knot Avenue, the main drag in Big Bear where we will wow the tourists with our dazzling cars.



Late afternoon will see the finals of **Rocker Cover Racing** followed by a no-host **Cocktail Party** in the Social Center and more **Paddlewheel Boat Touring**.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Gymkhana and Funkhana Day at the Big Bear Airport. For those not participating there will be several optional self-driving opportunities including a **Lake Arrowhead drive, Morongo/Las Vegas style casino visit, Palm**

Spring Aerial Tramway ride, Idyllwild and Palms to Pines Highway tour and many other options. Late afternoon will include **Tech Sessions** and a **Ladies Only Event**. A

final **Cocktail Party** with appetizers will precede the **Grand Banquet, Awards Ceremony,**

conclusion of the Silent Auction and a very special Healey guest.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Start your morning with an included **Farewell Breakfast**. We will have some special fun awards and the event signage will be auctioned off.

(Please note that the hotel room rate is \$100 plus tax for Sunday through Thursday nights. Early arrival on Saturday or stayover on Friday night will enjoy a \$130 rate).

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is now open. You may register online or by mail. Visit www.conclave2021.com for full event and hotel information and to start registration. Please note the money back COVID-19 Guarantee. Please answer all the questions carefully, we are collecting a log of information to make your visit as personalized and enjoyable as possible. Once we have received your paid registration, you will receive an email containing the code required to book your room.

